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		First Named Inventor	Malcolm et al.
		Group Art Unit	1645
		Examiner Name	R. Zeman
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, IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Malcolm et al.

For: Covalent Complexes of Hepatitis C Virus NS3 Protease and NS4A Cofactor Peptide

Serial No.: 09/198,723

Filing Date: November 24, 1998

Examiner: R. Zeman

Group Art Unit: 1645

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July 24, 2000

Schering-Plough Corporation Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action (Paper #10) dated June 15, 2000, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

- 1. (Amended) A covalent HCV NS4A-NS3 complex comprising [the] a central hydrophobic domain of native HCV NS4A peptide wherein the central hydrophobic domain comprises at least amino acid residues 22-30 of the native HCV NS4A peptide, a linker, and the HCV NS3 serine protease domain, wherein the hydrophobic domain of native HCV NS4A peptide is tethered by the linker to the amino terminus of the HCV NS3 protease domain.
- 2. (Amended) The covalent HCV NS4A-NS3 complex of claim 1, wherein the linker comprises at least [about] 4 amino acid residues.
- 3. (Amended) The covalent HCV NS4A-NS3 complex of claim 2, wherein the linker consists [essentially] of 4-6 amino acid residues.
- 4. (Amended) The covalent HCV NS4A-NS3 complex of claim 3, wherein the linker consists [essentially] of about 4 amino acid residues.

1 hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 24th day of July 2000.

July 24, 2000 Date

Signature

Sandy Zaradic Reg. No. 45,997

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